

**OREGON ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO
THE U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
MEETING MINUTES**

May 2, 2017

The Oregon Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Committee) convened a conference call to continue conversation about project topics. Thompson Faller chaired the meeting and performed the initial roll call of committee members present. The meeting was open to the public and took place from 1:02 PM to 1:52 PM PDT.

State Advisory Committee Members:

Present:

- Thompson M. Faller, Vice chair
- Fernando Gutierrez
- Kali T. Ladd
- Marcela Mendoza
- Joyce A. Waggoner
- Shoshanah Oppenheim

Absent:

- William T. Harbaugh
- Richard Russell Walker
- Ping Khaw
- Richard J. Elfering

Commission Staff present:

- Ana Victoria Fortes, Designated Federal Officer (DFO)
- Angelica Trevino, Support Services Specialist

Members of the Public present:

-
-

Meeting Notes/Decisions Made:

I. Welcome and Role Call

- Vice chair performed initial roll call.

II. Approval of April 4, 2017 Minutes

- Committee member Marcela Mendoza's name needs to be corrected
- Committee agrees to approve minutes reflecting changes to Marcela Mendoza's name.

III. US Commission on Civil Rights Commissioner Adegbile Visit to Oregon – Ana Fortes, DFO

- Commissioner Debo P. Adegbile will be visiting Oregon in June.
- Background on Commissioner Adegbile
 - i. Recently appointed Commissioner, appointed by President Obama in 2016.
 - ii. Partner at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, LLP and previously worked for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., serving in several leadership positions.
- Purpose of Visit
 - i. Commissioner Adegbile is interested in sharing information about the Commission's work, specifically the reports that are expected to come out this year as well as next year.
 - ii. In addition, he is interested in involving many of the SACs in the work of the Commission in the next fiscal year and believes that this would be a great opportunity to foster a more transparent and inclusive relationship.
- Committee members welcomed the idea
 - Chair and Marcela can help with securing a space for the meeting

IV. Discussion Regarding Potential FY17 Topics

- Committee members elaborated more on the four topics introduced during the last meeting:
 - Fernando Gutierrez and Marcela Mendoza are interested in focusing on worker protections for H2B visa farmworkers and notes that it overlaps with human trafficking concerns.
 - Vice chair is interested in exploring the topic of human trafficking and the extent to which it is an issue in the state. He notes that there was work done by a county taskforce to curb human trafficking and many communities including farmworkers were discussed.
 - Joyce Waggoner supports this topic
 - Kali Ladd shared research on the topic of disproportionate discipline affecting minority students written by the ACLU of Oregon, Oregon Education Investment Board, and the Oregon Department of Education. She raises the concern that while there are related reports to disproportionate discipline that there are no reports
 - Shoshanah Oppenheim supports this topic and adds that there should be further exploration into the systemic issues that exist.
 - Richard Walker was unable to join the meeting, but noted in the April 4 meeting that civil asset forfeiture may be a topic of interest since there is national attention on this issue.
- Committee members recognize that human trafficking and worker protections for H2B visa holders may be combined.

- Vice chair shared that the past SAC report the status of civil rights in Oregon was limited Committee noted that human trafficking and worker protections for H2B visa holders.
- Committee members agreed to poll members on their top 3 choices and move forward to voting on a topic at the next meeting. Each member will provide a summary of the topic to provide further background for members to learn about the issue before casting their vote.

V. Public Comment

- No members of the public were present.

VI. Next Steps

- DFO will send out poll with topic summaries to Committee members.
- Next meeting is scheduled for June 6, however we may change this date since Commissioner Adegbile will be joining the Committee meeting, therefore DFO will send out Doodle poll to determine June meeting date.

VII. Adjournment

- Fernando motions to adjourn.
- All Committee members agree to adjourn the meeting.